

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 IO-13 NIC-01 ACDA-19 EB-11

FAA-00 SAJ-01 MBFR-03 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /127 W

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O 181332 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5757

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION BERLIN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08631

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, ETRN, US, UR, WB, UK, FR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE APPROACH TO SOVIETS ON BERLIN CORRIDOR
CEILING ISSUE

REF: A) STATE 118030; B) BONN 8610; C) COPENHAGEN 1322

L. AT BONN GROUP MEETING ON JUNE 18, US REP REPEATED
DEPARTMENT'S ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF RAISING CORRIDOR
ISSUE WITH SOVIETS, AND PLACED SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON
CLARIFICATIONS PROVIDED IN REF (A). UK REP (CROMARTIE)
REHEARSED UK OBJECTIONS ALONG THE LINES OF THOSE
PRESENTED TO EMBASSY OFFICER ON JUNE L5 (REF C).
CROMARTIE SAID AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION FOR THE UK
WAS THE POSSIBLE EFFECT TALKS IN WASHINGTON MIGHT HAVE
ON PLANNED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ON THE TEGEL
STOP. HE SAID THE UK HAD WANTED QUADRIpartite DISCUSS-
ION OF THE MATTER IN ORDER TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF THE
FRENCH AND GERMANS ON THIS IMPORTANT POINT.

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2. FRENCH REP (DE BELLESCIZE) RECALLED THAT AFTER STUDYING PROS AND CONS OF THE US PROPOSAL, HIS AUTHORITIES HAD AGREED THAT THE ATTEMPT WAS WORTH MAKING. BELLESCIZE SAID THE FRENCH FELT STRONGLY THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF GAINING ADVANTAGES FOR THE CARRIERS FAR OUT- WEIGHED ANY THEORETICAL DANGERS IN THE US PROPOSAL AND THAT, EVEN THOUGH THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS WERE SLIM, THE ATTEMPT SHOULD BE MADE. BELLESCIZE SAID HE WAS SATISFIED WITH US ASSURANCES THAT THE SUBJECT WOULD BE CAREFULLY HANDLED. HE DOUBTED WHETHER TALKS IN WASHINGTON WOULD AFFECT DISCUSSION OF THE TEGEL STOP WITH THE SOVIETS IN BERLIN.

3. THE FOREIGN OFFICE REP (DERIX) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES HAD ALSO CONSIDERED THE MATTER FROM THIS POINT OF VIEW OF THE TALKS ON TEGEL AND FOUND NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT WHAT WAS SAID IN WASHINGTON WOULD AFFECT CHANCES IN BERLIN. HE SAID THIS WAS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN LIGHT OF RENEWED ASSURANCES GIVEN BY THE DEPARTMENT (REF C) ON THE MANNER IN WHICH THE 10,000 FOOT QUESTION WOULD BE RAISED. ON BALANCE, DERIX SAID, THE FOREIGN OFFICE STILL HOPED THE US WOULD BE ABLE TO RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH THE SOVIETS.

4. CROMARTIE SAID THE FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY THE US SIDE (REF A) AND THE INDICATIONS OF GERMAN AND FRENCH VIEWS WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HIS AUTHORITIES IN ARRIVING AT A DECISION. HE TOOK NOTE OF THE REQUEST BY THE US REP THAT A REPLY BE PROVIDED BY JUNE 19 AND SAID HE WOULD REPORT BACK IMMEDIATELY WHEN WORD HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM LONDON.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CROMARTIE PRIVATELY REFUSED TO COMMENT ON WHETHER OR NOT TODAY' S DISCUSSION WOULD CHANGE HIS VIEWS, OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT THE DEPARTMENT' S CLARIFICATIONS ALONG WITH STRONG SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM THE FRENCH AND GERMAN REPS WERE NOT WITHOUT EFFECT. IN VIEW OF THE URGENCY OF THE MATTER, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER INSTRUCTING EMBASSY LONDON TO MAKE A FOLLOW- UP APPROACH WITH THE FCO. SINCE BASIC CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUE IS BEING DONE BY THE
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UK EMBASSY IN BONN, WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT ANY APPROACH NOT ATTEMPT TO DUPLICATE THE POINTS MADE HERE TODAY. EMBASSY LONDON COULD, HOWEVER, REMIND THE FCO OF THE TIME PRESSURE INVOLVED AND NOTE ESPECIALLY THAT IN LIGHT OF STRONG FRENCH AND GERMAN SUPPORT GIVEN AT THE JUNE 18 MEETING, WE WOULD HOPE THAT A POSITIVE UK RESPONSE COULD BE FORTHCOMING.

HILLENBRAND

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